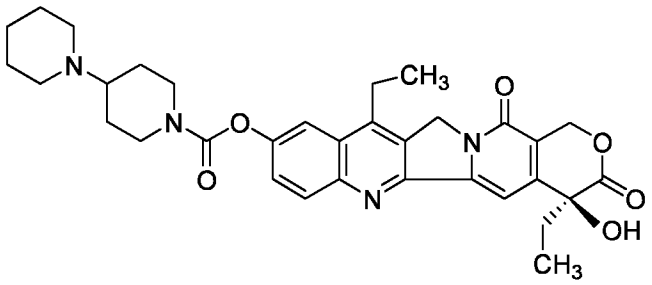
IN THE CLAIMS:

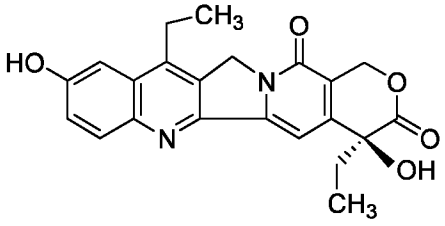
Please amend the claims, as follows:

Claim1(currently amended): A method of ~~manufacturing~~ preparation of 7-ethyl-10-[4-(1-piperidino)-1-piperidino]-carbonyloxy-camptothecin of formula I



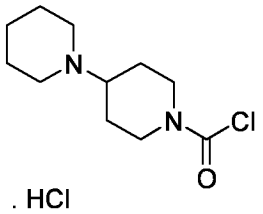
(I)

~~characterized in that~~ wherein 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin of formula II



(II)

is subjected to a condensation reaction with 1-chlorocarbonyl-4-piperidinopiperidine hydrochloride of formula III



(III)

in a polar aprotic solvent, e.g. in acetonitrile, in the presence of 4-dimethylaminopyridine.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein 1-chlorocarbonyl-4-piperidinopiperidine hydrochloride is employed in an amount of 1.3 to 3 mol, preferably in an amount of 1.6 to 1.9 mol, per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein 4-dimethylaminopyridine is employed in an amount of 1.5 to 4 mol, preferably in an amount of 1.8 to 2.2 mol, per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the polar aprotic solvent is employed in an amount of 400 to 600 mol, preferably in an amount of 430 to 460 mol, per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxycamptothecin.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the condensation reaction is carried out at a temperature of 70 to 80 ˚C, preferably at a temperature of 73 to 77 ˚C.